In view of the above and the fact that the Central Universities have been established in 11 States/Union Territories, Himachal Pradesh is at par with many other States in the country.

Central education institutions in Himachal Pradesh

1244. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita number of Central Schools in Himachal Pradesh is less than the national average;

(b) if not, what is the number of Central Schools, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Pratibha Vidyalaya Schools in the State; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative the proposals for opening of more Central education institutions in the State during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas and 12 Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in the State of Himachal Pradesh as on date.

The information in respect of Pratibha Vidyalaya Schools is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Does not arise.

Marriages on contractual basis

1245. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of young poor girls married on contractual basis for a short period to foreign nationals from the Gulf countries have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the agents and steps taken to rehabilitate such poor girls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) The

National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken notice of and held investigation into one case of a minor girl of Thane District, Maharashtra allegedly being sold to a Yemini national for Rs. 10,000/- under the guise of marriage by a close female relative of the girl.

(c) The matter has been taken up by the Department of Women and Child Development with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Inclusion of environment as a subject

1246. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court issued notice to the All India Council for Technical Education and the National Council for Teacher Education asking them to include environment as a subject in the syllabi of the institutions under their control; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) During the course of hearing of an Interlocutory Application in Writ Petition No. 860 of 1991, in response to a notice issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) made a submission before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 6.8.2004 that they had already prepared a syllabus which includes Environmental Education and which was being updated. In pursuance of the above submission, the AICTE is in the process of updating a core model syllabus for environment studies. As regards the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), as a part of revision of its Teacher Education Curriculum, the NCTE is considering making Environment Education an integral part of the curriculum framework at all stages. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has allowed three months time to the NCTE on 6.8.2004 to finalise the revised curriculum.

Scholarships and fee structure at IIM

1247. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IIM controversy was virtually laid to rest with the ordering of immediate withdrawal of the previous order slashing fee to Rs.30,000/-;